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Reprinted for the use of the Foreign Office. March 1903.

CONFIDENTIAL.

(6332.)

PART V.

FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING THE

BOUNDARY BETWEEN THE BRITISH POSSESSIONS IN
NORTH AMERICA

AND THE

TERRITORY OF ALASKA.

1891-92.

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CONFIDENTIAL.

Further Correspondence respecting the Boundary between the
British Possessions in North America and the Territory of
Alaska.

PART V.

No. 1.

Colonial Office to Foreign Office.—(Received May 6.)

Sir,

Downing Street, May 5, 1891.

I AM directed by Lord Knutsford to transmit to you, to be laid before the Marquis of Salisbury, a copy of a despatch from the Governor-General of Canada, with its inclosure, requesting that the Government of the United States may be reminded that some difference of opinion exists as to the marking of the boundary-line between Alaska and British Columbia, which can only properly be determined by an International Commission; and I am to suggest, for Lord Salisbury's consideration, that a communication should be addressed to the Government of the United States in the sense indicated by the Government of the Dominion.

I am, &c.

(Signed) JOHN BRAMSTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 1.

Lord Stanley of Preston to Lord Knutsford.

My Lord,

Government House, Ottawa, April 17, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith a copy of an approved Minute of the Privy Council calling attention to an extract from the Report of the United States' Coast and Geodetic Survey with reference to the marking of the boundary-line between Alaska and British Columbia, and requesting that the United States' Government may be reminded that some difference of opinion exists as to this boundary which can only be properly determined by an International Commission.

I have, &c.

(Signed) STANLEY OF PRESTON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 1.

Report of a Committee of the Honourable the Privy Council, approved by his Excellency the Governor-General in Council on the 15th April, 1891.

ON a Report, dated the 18th March, 1891, from the Minister of the Interior, stating that his attention has been called to the fact that in the last published Report of the United States' Coast and Geodetic Survey the Director says, p. 3:—

"By recent Congressional enactment a preliminary survey of the frontier-line between Alaska and British Columbia, in accordance with plans or projects approved by the Secretary of State, has been placed in charge of this Bureau. Such a preliminary survey, involving the determination of a number of points in geographical position, and their complete marking by permanent monuments, will have to be carried from Cape Mazon *through the Portland Canal*, to the 50th degree of north latitude, thence north-westwardly, following, as nearly as may be practicable, the general trend of the coast, at a distance of *about 35 miles from it*, to the 141st degree of west longitude, and thence due north to the Arctic Ocean, a total distance of about 1,400 miles":

The Minister recommends that the necessary steps be taken to call the attention of the Government of the United States to the fact that the question of the boundary at this point is at the present time the subject of some difference of opinion and of considerable correspondence, and he recommends that steps be taken to point out to the Government of the United States that the actual boundary-line can only be settled by an International Commission.

The Committee, concurring in the above, advise that your Excellency be moved to communicate this Minute to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

All of which is respectfully submitted for your Excellency's approval.

(Signed) JOHN J. MCGEE, Clerk,
Privy Council.

No. 2.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Sir J. Panncefote.

(No. 114.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 16, 1891.

WITH reference to your despatch No. 131, of the 7th October last, and previous correspondence, I transmit to you herewith a copy of a letter from the Colonial Office,* inclosing a despatch from the Governor-General of Canada requesting that the United States' Government may be reminded that some difference of opinion exists as to the marking of a boundary-line between Alaska and British Columbia, which can only be properly determined by an International Commission.

I have to request you to address a communication to the United States' Government in the sense desired by the Government of the Dominion.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 3.

Sir J. Panncefote to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received June 11.)

(No. 126.)

My Lord,

Washington, June 9, 1891.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch No. 114 of the 16th ultimo, received on the 2nd instant, I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith copy of a note which, in conformity with instructions, I have addressed to the United States' Secretary of State, pointing out that the boundary-line between Alaska and British Columbia can only be properly determined by an International Commission.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JULIAN PANNECFOTE.

Inclosure in No. 3.

Sir J. Poncefote to Mr. Blaine.

Sir,

Washington, June 5, 1891.

THE Governor-General of Canada has lately brought under the notice of Her Majesty's Government the following passage in the last published Report of the United States' Coast and Geodetic Survey, in which the Director writes as follows :—

"By recent Congressional enactment a preliminary survey of the frontier-line between Alaska and British Columbia, in accordance with plans or projects approved by the Secretary of State, has been placed in charge of this Bureau. Such a preliminary survey, involving the determination of a number of points in geographical position and their complete marking by permanent monuments, will have to be carried from Cape Mazon through the Portland Canal to the 50th degree of north latitude, thence north-westwardly, following, as nearly as practicable, the general trend of the coast at a distance of about 35 miles from it, to the 141st degree of west longitude, and thence due north to the Arctic Ocean, a total distance of about 1,400 miles."

The Dominion Government have expressed the desire that the United States' Government may be reminded that the question of the boundary at this point is at the present time the subject of some difference of opinion and of considerable correspondence, and that the actual boundary-line can only be properly determined by an International Commission.

I have accordingly been instructed by the Marquis of Salisbury to call your attention to the above extract, and to the observations of the Dominion Government thereon.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JULIAN PAUNCEFOTE.

No. 4.

Foreign Office to Colonial Office.

Foreign Office, July 29, 1891.

[Transmits copies of No. 114 to Sir J. Poncefote, dated May 16; and Sir J. Poncefote's No. 126 of June 9, 1891: ante Nos. 2 and 3.]

No. 5.

Extracts from Papers sent home in Sir J. Poncefote's No. 42, dated February 19, 1892.—
(Received March 1.)

Minutes of Proceedings of Canadian and United States' Delegates, February 12, 1892.

THE Conference was resumed this morning at 11 o'clock at the State Department.

The Canadian Delegates handed in the accompanying proposal (A), referring to the settlement of the boundary of Alaska, stating that it was quite informally made, and was put forward merely as a basis of discussion.

The various contentions relating to the boundary were then explained.

(A.)

As regards the boundary-line between Alaska and Canada :—

It is proposed that a reference to some impartial authority be made by Great Britain and the United States for the purpose of ascertaining and deciding finally the true boundary, regard being had to the Treaties relating to the subject and likewise to the Case which may be presented by either Government, and to the testimony which may be adduced as to the physical features and conditions of the country.

Also, that a Commission of four experts be appointed forthwith to report to the Governments of Great Britain and the United States as to the best and most convenient

mode of delimiting the boundary as established by the award to be made under the foregoing Article, the Commissioners to have authority to recommend as an alternative the adoption of a Conventional boundary if they or any of them find a Conventional boundary likely to avoid serious inconveniences in the delimitation, and otherwise compatible with the interests of both countries.

Minutes of Proceedings of Canadian and United States' Delegates, February 15, 1892.

THE Conference resumed to-day at 11 o'clock.

On the part of the United States, the proposal contained in the annexed Memorandum, marked (E), was handed in, and assented to by the Canadian Delegates, after some explanation and discussion (referring to the boundary of Alaska).

(E.)

It is agreed that a joint survey be made of the territory adjacent to the boundary-line of the United States of America and the Dominion of Canada between the territory of Alaska and the Province of British Columbia, and the north-west territory of Canada, from the latitude of $54^{\circ} 40'$ north, to the point where said boundary-line encounters the 141^{st} degree of west longitude, with a view to the ascertainment of the facts and data necessary to the permanent delimitation of said boundary-line, in accordance with the spirit and intent of the existing Treaties in regard to it between Great Britain and Russia, and between the United States and Russia.

Application will be made without delay to the respective Legislative Bodies for the appropriations necessary for the prosecution of the survey, and the Commission to be appointed by the two Governments shall meet within two months after said appropriations shall have been made, and shall proceed as soon as practicable thereafter to the active discharge of their joint duties.

The Commissioners shall complete the survey, and submit a final Report thereof within two years from the date of their first meeting.

The Commissioners shall, so far as they may be able to agree, make a Joint Report to each of the two Governments, and they shall also report, either jointly or severally, to each Government upon any points upon which they may be unable to agree.

The two Governments shall pay the expenses of their respective Commissioners.

The two Governments agree that, as soon as practicable after the Report or Reports of the Commissioners shall have been received, they will proceed to consider and permanently establish the boundary-line in question.

No. 6.

Mr. Herbert to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received July 4.)

(No. 160.)

My Lord,

Washington, June 23, 1892.

WITH reference to my telegram No. 92 of to-day, I have the honour to inclose herewith copy of the draft Convention for the demarcation of the Alaska boundary, and for the marking of the boundary-line in the waters of Passamaquoddy Bay, which I received to-day from Mr. Wharton.

Mr. Adee, the Assistant Secretary of State, who has drawn up this Convention, informed me yesterday that he thought it would save trouble to include the Alaska boundary and Passamaquoddy Bay questions in the same instrument.

He told me at the same time that he had made certain alterations and additions in the arrangements agreed upon at the Conference last February, which will be found marked in red ink.*

He especially called my attention to the addition in the 1st Article, which he said would enable the Commission to break up into small parties for survey work, and thereby save much delay and expense, and he hoped that your Lordship would see no objection to this change.

The Fish Preservation Convention has not yet been completed, as there are many questions of detail involved concerning which Mr. Adee said he had to consult with the

United States' Fish Commissioner. He hoped, however, that it would be ready in about three weeks' time.

I have forwarded a copy of the inclosed Convention to the Governor-General of Canada.

I have, &c.
(Signed) MICHAEL H. HERBERT.

Inclosure in No. 6.

Draft Convention between Great Britain and the United States.

THE United States of America and Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, being equally desirous to provide for the removal of all possible causes of difference between their respective Governments hereafter in regard to the delimitation of the existing boundary between the United States and Her Majesty's possessions in North America, in regard to such portions of said boundary as may not, in fact have been permanently marked in virtue of Treaties heretofore concluded, have resolved to conclude a Convention in furtherance of these ends, and for that purpose have appointed as their respective Plenipotentiaries :—

The President of the United States,

And Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland,

Who, after having communicated to each other their respective Full Powers, which were found to be in due and proper form, have agreed to and concluded the following Articles :—

ARTICLE I.

The High Contracting Parties agree that it is agreed that a coincident or joint survey (as may be found in practice most convenient) shall be made of the territory adjacent to the that part of the boundary-line of the United States of America and the Dominion of Canada, between the territory of Alaska and the Province of British Columbia and the north-west territory of Canada, from the latitude of 51° 40' north to the point where the said boundary-line encounters the 141st degree of west longitude westward from the meridian of Greenwich, by Commissions to be appointed severally by the High Contracting Parties, with a view to the ascertainment of the facts and data necessary to the permanent delimitation of said boundary-line in accordance with the spirit and intent of the existing Treaties in regard to it between Great Britain and Russia and between the United States and Russia.

Application will be made without delay to the respective legislative bodies for the appropriations necessary for the prosecution of the survey, and the Commissions to be appointed by the two Governments shall meet at within two months after said appropriation shall have been made, and shall proceed as soon as possible thereafter to the active discharge of their duties.

The respective Commissions shall complete the survey and submit a their final Report thereof within two years from the date of their first meeting.

The Commissions shall, so far as they may be able to agree, make a Joint Report to each of the two Governments, and they shall also report, either jointly or severally, to each Government on any points upon which they may be unable to agree.

The two Governments shall pay the expenses of their respective Commissions.

Each Government shall pay the expenses of the Commission appointed by it.

Each Government engages to facilitate in every possible way any operations which, in pursuance of the plan to be agreed upon by the Commissions, may be conducted within its territory by the Commission of the other.

The two Governments High Contracting Parties agree that, as soon as practicable after the Report or Reports of the Commissions shall have been received, they will proceed to consider and establish the boundary-line in question.

ARTICLE II.

The High Contracting Parties agree that the Governments of the United States and of Her Britannic Majesty in behalf of the Dominion of Canada will shall, with as little

delay as possible, appoint two Commissioners, one to be named by each Party, to determine upon a method of more accurately marking the boundary-line between the two countries in the waters of Passamaquoddy Bay in front of and adjacent to Eastport, in the State of Maine, in accordance with the decision rendered the 24th November, 1817, by the Commissioners under the IVth Article of the Treaty of Ghent, and to place buoys or fix such other boundary-marks as they may determine to be necessary.

ARTICLE III.

Each Government shall pay the expenses of its own Commissioner, and the cost of marking the boundary, in such manner as shall be determined upon, shall be defrayed by the High Contracting Parties in equal moities.

The present Convention shall be duly ratified by the President of the United States of America, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate thereof, and by Her Britannic Majesty; and the ratifications shall be exchanged at Washington within twelve months from the date hereof, or earlier if possible.

In faith whereof we, the respective Plenipotentiaries, have signed this Convention, and have hereunto affixed our seals.

No. 7.

Foreign Office to Colonial Office.

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 6, 1892.

WITH reference to my letter of the 24th ultimo, I am directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to transmit herewith a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Washington,* inclosing a copy of the draft Convention which he has received from the United States' Acting Secretary of State, for the demarcation of the Alaska boundary, and for the marking of the boundary-line in the waters of Passamaquoddy Bay.

Lord Salisbury would be glad to be furnished with any observations which Lord Knutsford may have to offer on this draft at his early convenience.

I am, &c.

(Signed) T. H. SANDERSON.

No. 8.

Mr. Herbert to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received July 11.)

(No. 103.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Washington, July 11, 1892.

MR. FOSTER is very anxious that the Alaska Convention should be signed before the adjournment of the Senate, which will take place in about a fortnight. It could then be ratified at once. A delay of six months will otherwise occur.

No. 9.

Memorandum on Cable from Governor-General of Canada to Lord Knutsford.

THE draft Convention contemplates the marking of the boundary-line between Canada and Maine in the waters of Passamaquoddy Bay, near Eastport, Maine.

The Canadian Government suggest that the words "in accordance with the decision of Commissioners under the IVth Article of the Treaty of Ghent" should be omitted.

On reference to this decision it will be seen that it deals only with certain islands not now in dispute, and does not assist in the marking of the line in front of and adjacent to Eastport a water boundary, as contemplated by the Convention.

The reference would lead eventually to confusion and misunderstanding.

With the words left out, the marking can be done according to the Treaty and all subsequent acts between the parties.

(Signed)

CHARLES H. TUPPER.

July 19, 1902.

No. 10.

Colonial Office to Foreign Office.—(Received July 19.)

Sir,

Downing Street, July 19, 1892.

WITH reference to your letters of the 6th and 12th instant respecting the draft Convention for the demarcation of the Alaskan boundary and the boundary between the United States and Canada in Passamaquoddy Bay, I am directed by Lord Knutsford to transmit to you, to be laid before the Marquis of Salisbury, copies of telegraphic correspondence with the Governor-General of Canada on the subject of the draft Convention.

Lord Knutsford sees no objection to the amendment of the draft Convention suggested by the Dominion Government.

I am, &c.

(Signed) R. H. MEADE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 10.*Lord Knutsford to Lord Stanley of Preston.*

(Telegraphic.)

Downing Street, July 13, 1892.

SEE draft Alaska Boundary Convention sent you by Chargé d'Affaires at Washington. Telegraph whether your Government agrees. United States Government have telegraphed that they are anxious for decision, as Senate adjourns in a fortnight.

Inclosure 2 in No. 10.*Lord Stanley of Preston to Lord Knutsford.*

(Telegraphic.)

July 17, 1892.

YOUR Lordship's telegram of 13th July.

Privy Council see no objection to draft Convention, excepting that portion respecting the boundary at Passamaquoddy Bay, in which reference to decision of Commissioner under Article IV of Treaty of Ghent does not appear to govern question of boundary. They suggest the omission of the following words after word Maine, ninth line, IInd Article, "in accordance with the decision of Commissioners under Article IV of the Treaty of Ghent rendered 24th November, 1817."

No. 11.*The Marquis of Salisbury to Mr. Herbert.*

(No. 72.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Foreign Office, July 20, 1892.

WITH reference to your telegram No. 103 of the 11th instant on the subject of the boundary in Passamaquoddy Bay, the Canadian Government recommend that the words "in accordance with the decision of the Commissioners under Article IV of the Treaty of Ghent, rendered 24th November, 1817," should be omitted from Article II of the proposed Convention.

This decision might lead to difficulty, as it only concerns certain islands which are not now in dispute.

No. 12.*Mr. Herbert to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received July 20.)*

(No. 109.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Newport, July 20, 1892.

WITH reference to your Lordship's telegram of to-day, Mr. Foster agrees to the proposed omission in Article II of the Alaska Boundary Convention. Does your Lordship now authorize me to sign it? It will be too late for the Senate's ratification this Session if not signed by next Friday.

No. 13.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Mr. Herbert.

(No. 73.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Foreign Office, July 21, 1892.

WITH reference to your telegram No. 109 of the 21st instant on the subject of the Alaska and Passamaquoddy Bay Boundary Convention, your signature of Convention, with the omission suggested by the Government of Canada, is authorized. Her Majesty has signed the Full Powers enabling you to do this, and they will be sent to you by the mail of the 23rd July.

No. 14.

Mr. Herbert to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received July 23, 8 A.M.)

(No. 110.)

(Telegraphic.)

Washington, July 22, 1892.

ALASKA Convention signed to-day.

No. 15.

Mr. Herbert to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received July 25.)

(No. 189.)

My Lord,

Washington, July 11, 1892.

WITH reference to my telegram No. 103 of to-day's date, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that Mr. Foster asked me this morning whether the terms of the Alaska Convention, which was handed to me on the 23rd ultimo, had met with your Lordship's approval. I replied that there had not been time for me to receive an answer, as I had only sent it to your Lordship a fortnight ago.

Mr. Foster said that he was very anxious to sign it before the Senate adjourned, as the question would otherwise be delayed for six months. If the signature took place at once the Convention could be ratified next week, and the Boundary Commission could set to work this summer, and he asked me to telegraph to your Lordship in this sense, which I promised to do.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

MICHAEL H. HERBERT.

No. 16.

Mr. Herbert to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received July 27.)

(No. 114.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Newport, July 27, 1892.

ALASKA Convention has been ratified by Senate. Copy of Convention sent by bag yesterday. Mr. Foster desires to exchange ratifications as soon as possible.

No. 17.

Mr. Herbert to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received August 4.)

(No. 201.)

My Lord,

Newport, Rhode Island, July 23, 1892.

WITH reference to your Lordship's telegram No. 72 of the 20th instant, and to my telegram No. 109 of the same date, I have the honour to inclose a copy of a note which I have received from Mr. Foster, recording the consent of the United States' Government to the omission proposed by the Canadian Government in the Alaska Boundary Convention.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

MICHAEL H. HERBERT.

Inclosure in No. 17.

Mr. Foster to Mr. Herbert.

Sir, *Department of State, Washington, July 21, 1892.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge receipt of your telegram of the 20th instant, in regard to the desire of the Canadian Government to omit, in the Alaska Convention, the words "in accordance with the decision of the Commissioners under the IVth Article of the Treaty of Ghent, rendered November 24th, 1817."

I accordingly replied on the 20th instant, by telegram, as follows: "Will agree to omission. Congress adjourns in very few days."

The Convention, with the suggested omission, is being engrossed in duplicate, for our respective signatures for to-morrow morning, Friday, the 22nd instant, any time after 11 o'clock.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JOHN W. FOSTER.

No. 18.

Mr. Herbert to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received August 4.)

(No. 202.)

My Lord,

Newport, Rhode Island, July 23, 1892.

WITH reference to my telegram No. 110 of yesterday's date, I have the honour to inclose the duplicate original of the Alaska Boundary Convention, which was signed yesterday by Mr. Foster and myself.

Before signing the Convention, Mr. Foster drew my attention to the fact that the place of meeting of the Commission had not been agreed upon, and stated that there were three places which appeared to him to be suitable for that purpose, namely, Washington, Ottawa, or Montreal, and that, of the three, he preferred Washington. I replied that I had no authority to agree to Washington, nor indeed to any particular city, as the place of meeting, but that I thought that Ottawa would be more convenient than Washington, as it would be nearer to the scene of the operations of the Commission, and would moreover be the best starting point on account of the Canadian Pacific Railway.

After a short discussion, Mr. Foster consented to my suggestion, and Ottawa was inserted in the Convention.

There having been no time to telegraph to your Lordship for instructions on this point, I venture to express the hope that the choice of Ottawa will meet with your Lordship's approval.

I have informed the Governor-General of Canada of the substance of this despatch.

I have, &c.
(Signed) MICHAEL H. HERBERT.

No. 19.

Mr. Herbert to the Marquis of Salisbury.—(Received August 4.)

(No. 203.)

My Lord,

Newport, Rhode Island, July 23, 1892.

WITH reference to my immediately-preceding despatch, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that Mr. Foster told me yesterday that he did not propose to appoint more than one Commissioner on the Alaska Boundary Commission; but that this would not, of course, prevent the Canadian Government from appointing any number of Commissioners that they might desire. He added that Professor Mendenhall would probably be the United States Commissioner, and, in answer to a question of mine, he said that he would, of course, be provided with as much assistance as he required in the way of Secretaries, &c.

I have communicated the substance of this despatch to Lord Stanley.

I have, &c.
(Signed) MICHAEL H. HERBERT.

No. 20.

Foreign Office to Colonial Office.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 6, 1892.

WITH reference to my previous letter of this day, I am directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to transmit a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Washington,* reporting that Professor Mendenhall will probably be appointed to be the United States' Commissioner on the Alaska Boundary Commission.

I am to say that Lord Salisbury would be glad to be informed of the views of the Canadian Government as to the appointment of one or more Commissioners to represent them on the Commission.

I am, &c.
(Signed) T. V. LISTER.

No. 21.

Foreign Office to Colonial Office.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 6, 1892.

WITH reference to Sir T. Sanderson's letter of the 28th ultimo, I am directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to transmit to you, to be laid before Lord Knutsford, a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Washington,† in which he incloses the original of the Alaska Boundary Convention, signed at Washington on the 22nd July.

The ratifications of the Convention are now being prepared for Her Majesty's signature, and as soon as they have been exchanged between the two Powers the Convention will be communicated to both Houses of Parliament.

You will observe that an agreement has been arrived at between Mr. Herbert and the United States' Secretary of State, that the Boundary Commission shall meet at Ottawa, and Lord Salisbury proposes, with Lord Knutsford's concurrence, to inform Mr. Herbert that the selection of Ottawa for this purpose is approved by Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) T. V. LISTER.

No. 22.

Colonial Office to Foreign Office.—(Received August 13.)

Sir,

Downing Street, August 12, 1892.

IN reply to your letter of the 6th instant, forwarding a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Washington, respecting the place of meeting of the proposed Alaska Boundary Commission, I am directed by Lord Knutsford to acquaint you, for the information of the Marquis of Salisbury, that he concurs in the proposal to approve of the selection of Ottawa as the place of meeting of the Commission.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EDWARD FAIRFIELD.

No. 23.

The Marquis of Salisbury to Mr. Herbert.

(No. 180.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 13, 1892.

IN reply to your despatch No. 202 of the 23rd ultimo, I have to inform you that the selection of Ottawa as the place of meeting of the proposed Alaska Boundary Commission is approved by Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 24.

Foreign Office to Colonial Office.

Sir, *Foreign Office, August 26, 1892.*
 WITH reference to your letter of the 12th instant, I am directed by the Earl of Rosebery to state that a telegram has been received from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Washington reporting that the ratifications of the Alaska Boundary Convention had been exchanged with the United States' Government on the 23rd instant.

I am, &c.
 (Signed) T. H. SANDERSON.

No. 25.

Mr. Herbert to the Earl of Rosebery.—(Received September 11.)

(No. 135.) *Newport, Rhode Island, September 10, 1892.*
 (Telegraphic.) P.
 I HAVE received a note from Mr. Foster stating that Mr. Mendenhall has been appointed United States' Commissioner under Articles I and II of the Alaska Boundary Convention, and that Congress has made the necessary appropriations for the prosecution of the survey. He inquires at the same time whether the Canadian appropriations have been obtained, in order that there may be as little delay as possible before the Commission meets.

Lord Stanley informed of above.

No. 26.

Foreign Office to Colonial Office.

Sir, *Foreign Office, September 12, 1892.*
 WITH reference to your letter of the 12th ultimo respecting the Alaska Boundary Convention, I am directed by the Earl of Rosebery to transmit, for such steps as the Marquis of Ripon may think desirable, the paraphrase of a telegram from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Washington,* reporting the arrangements made by the United States' Government for the survey of the frontier and making inquiries as to the steps taken by the Canadian Government.

Lord Ripon will perceive that Mr. Herbert has sent the same message to the Governor-General of the Dominion.

I am, &c.
 (Signed) T. H. SANDERSON.

No. 27.

Mr. Herbert to the Earl of Rosebery.—(Received September 26.)

(No. 247.)
 My Lord, *Newport, Rhode Island, September 10, 1892.*
 WITH reference to my telegram No. 135 of to-day, I have the honour to inclose copy of a note which I have received from Mr. Foster, in which he states that Mr. Thomas C. Mendenhall, Superintendent of the United States' Coast and Geodetic Survey, has been appointed United States' Commissioner under Articles I and II of the Alaska Boundary Convention, and expresses the hope that the Commission may begin its work as soon as possible.

I have sent a copy of this note to the Governor-General of Canada.

I have, &c.
 (Signed) MICHAEL H. HERBERT.

Inclosure 1 in No. 27.

Mr. Foster to Mr. Herbert.

Sir, *Department of State, Washington, September 8, 1892*
 I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith copies of the Convention concluded in this city on the 22nd July, 1892, providing for a joint delimitation of the existing boundary-line between the United States' and Her Majesty's possessions in North America in respect to such portions of said boundary as may not in fact have been permanently marked in virtue of Treaties heretofore concluded.

By direction of the President, Thomas C. Mendenhall, Superintendent of the United States' Coast and Geodetic Survey, has been appointed the Commissioner of the United States, pursuant to Articles I and II of the Convention mentioned, and it is the President's desire that the work may be begun and completed within as brief a period as practicable.

The Convention provides, in Article I, that application shall be made without delay to the respective Legislative Bodies for the appropriations necessary for the prosecution of the survey.

It gives me pleasure to say that the appropriation on behalf of the Government of the United States has been made by Congress, and I shall be glad to know whether that on behalf of the Canadian Government has been provided for, in order that the Commission may meet without delay at Ottawa, and proceed as soon as possible thereafter to the active discharge of its duties.

Asking that you will give the matter your early attention, and advise me of the action of the Canadian Government, I have, &c.

(Signed) JOHN W. FOSTER.

Inclosure 2 in No. 27.

Convention between the United States of America and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland for a Joint Survey of the Territory adjacent to the Boundary-line of the United States of America and the Dominion of Canada dividing the Territory of Alaska from the Province of British Columbia and the North-west Territory of Canada.

Concluded at Washington, July 22, 1892.

Ratification advised by the Senate, July 25, 1892.

Ratified by the President of the United States, July 29, 1892.

Ratified by the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, August 5, 1892.

Ratifications exchanged at Washington, August 23, 1892.

Proclaimed August 26, 1892.

By the President of the United States of America,

A Proclamation.

WHEREAS a Convention between the United States of America and Great Britain providing for the delimitation of the existing boundary between the United States and Her Majesty's possessions in North America in respect to such portions of said boundary as may not in fact have been permanently marked in virtue of Treaties heretofore concluded, was signed by their respective Plenipotentiaries at the city of Washington, on the 22nd day of July, 1892, the original of which Convention, being in the English language, is word for word as follows:—

"The United States of America and Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, being equally desirous to provide for the removal of all possible cause of difference between their respective Governments hereafter in regard to the delimitation of the existing boundary between the United States and Her Majesty's possessions in North America in respect to such portions of said boundary as may not in fact have been permanently marked in virtue of Treaties heretofore concluded, have resolved to conclude a Convention in furtherance of these ends, and for that purpose have appointed as their respective Plenipotentiaries:

"The President of the United States, John W. Foster, Secretary of State of the United States; and

"Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, the Honourable Michael H. Herbert, Chargé d'Affaires *ad interim* of Great Britain;

"Who, after having communicated to each other their respective full powers, which were found to be in due and proper form, have agreed to and concluded the following Articles:—

"ARTICLE I.

"The High Contracting Parties agree that a coincident or joint survey (as may be found in practice most convenient) shall be made of the territory adjacent to that part of the boundary-line of the United States of America and the Dominion of Canada dividing the territory of Alaska from the Province of British Columbia and the north-west territory of Canada from the latitude of 54° 40' north to the point where the said boundary-line encounters the 141st degree of longitude westward from the meridian of Greenwich, by Commissions to be appointed severally by the High Contracting Parties, with a view to the ascertainment of the facts and data necessary to the permanent delimitation of said boundary-line in accordance with the spirit and intent of the existing Treaties in regard to it between Great Britain and Russia and between the United States and Russia.

"Application will be made without delay to the respective Legislative Bodies for the appropriations necessary for the prosecution of the survey, and the Commissions to be appointed by the two Governments shall meet at Ottawa within two months after said appropriation shall have been made, and shall proceed as soon as practicable thereafter to the active discharge of their duties.

"The respective Commissions shall complete the survey and submit their final Reports thereof within two years from the date of their first meeting.

"The Commissions shall, so far as they may be able to agree, make a Joint Report to each of the two Governments, and they shall also report, either jointly or severally, to each Government on any points upon which they may be unable to agree.

"Each Government shall pay the expenses of the Commission appointed by it.

"Each Government engages to facilitate in every possible way any operations which, in pursuance of the plan to be agreed upon by the Commissions, may be conducted within its territory by the Commission of the other.

"The High Contracting Parties agree that, as soon as practicable after the Report or Reports of the Commissions shall have been received, they will proceed to consider and establish the boundary-line in question.

"ARTICLE II.

"The High Contracting Parties agree that the Governments of the United States and of Her Britannic Majesty in behalf of the Dominion of Canada shall, with as little delay as possible, appoint two Commissioners, one to be named by each party, to determine upon a method of more accurately marking the boundary-line between the two countries in the waters of Passamaquoddy Bay, in front of and adjacent to Eastport, in the State of Maine, and to place buoys or fix such other boundary-marks as they may determine to be necessary.

"Each Government shall pay the expenses of its own Commissioner, and cost of marking the boundary in such manner as shall be determined upon shall be defrayed by the High Contracting Parties in equal moieties.

"ARTICLE III.

"The present Convention shall be duly ratified by the President of the United States of America, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate thereof, and by Her Britannic Majesty; and the ratifications shall be exchanged at Washington within twelve months from the date hereof, or earlier if possible.

"In faith whereof we, the respective Plenipotentiaries, have signed this Convention, and have hereunto affixed our seals.

"Done in duplicate at Washington the 22nd day of July, 1892.

(Signed)

"JOHN W. FOSTER.

(Seal.)

"MICHAEL H. HERBERT."

(Seal.)

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And whereas the said Convention has been duly ratified on both parts, and the ratifications of the two Governments were exchanged in the city of Washington, on the 23rd day of August, 1892.

Now, therefore, be it known that I, Benjamin Harrison, President of the United States of America, have caused the said Convention to be made public, to the end that the same, and every Article and clause thereof, may be observed and fulfilled with good faith by the United States and the citizens thereof.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the city of Washington this 26th day of August, in the year of our Lord 1892, and of the Independence of the United States the 117th.

(Seal.) (Signed) BENJ. HARRISON.

By the President :
(Signed) JOHN W. FOSTER,
Secretary of State.

No. 28.

Mr. Herbert to the Earl of Rosebery.—(Received September 26.)

(No. 255.)

My Lord,

Newport, Rhode Island, September 16, 1892.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 247 of the 10th instant, I have the honour to report that, in compliance with a request which I have received from the Governor-General of Canada, I have informed the United States' Government that Mr. W. F. King has been appointed the Canadian Commissioner on the Alaska Boundary Commission.

I have, &c.
(Signed) MICHAEL H. HERBERT.

No. 29.

Colonial Office to Foreign Office.—(Received October 4.)

Sir,

Downing Street, October 4, 1892.

WITH reference to your letter of the 6th August, respecting the Alaska Boundary Commission, and the marking of the boundary between the United States and Canada in Passamaquoddy Bay, I am directed by the Marquis of Ripon to transmit to you, to be laid before the Earl of Rosebery, a copy of a despatch from the Governor-General of Canada, forwarding a Minute of the Dominion Privy Council appointing Mr. W. F. King, Chief Astronomer of the Department of the Interior, to represent Canada on the Commission.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JOHN BRAMSTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 29.

Lord Stanley of Preston to the Marquis of Ripon.

(Confidential.)

My Lord,

The Citadel, Quebec, September 14, 1892.

IN reply to your predecessor's despatch of the 13th ultimo, marked Confidential, requesting to be furnished with the names of the Commissioner or Commissioners whom this Government proposed to appoint to represent Canada on the Alaska Boundary Commission, I have the honour to inclose copy of an approved Minute of the Privy Council, recommending the appointment of Mr. W. F. King, M.A.; D.T.S., Chief Astronomer of the Department of the Interior, as Canada's Representative.

I have, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY OF PRESTON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 29.

Report of a Committee of the Honourable the Privy Council, approved by his Excellency the Governor-General in Council on the 12th September, 1892.

THE Committee of the Privy Council have had under consideration the several despatches, &c., mentioned in the schedule hereunto annexed, relating to the Alaska boundary, and the more accurate marking of the boundary-line between Canada and the United States in the waters of the Passamaquoddy Bay.

The Minister of the Interior, to whom the said despatches were referred, recommends as follows:—

1. That the Agreement between Mr. Foster, Secretary of State for the United States, and Mr. Michael H. Herbert, Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Washington, that Ottawa (Canada) shall be the place of the first meeting of the Boundary Commissioners to be appointed under the Convention signed at Washington on the 22nd July, 1892, having reference to the boundary between Canada and the United States, be approved.

2. That Mr. W. F. King, M.A., D.T.S., Chief Astronomer of the Department of the Interior, be appointed the Commissioner to represent Canada on the said Commission.

The Committee concur in the said recommendations, and advise that your Excellency be pleased to forward a copy of this Minute to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and to Her Majesty's Minister at Washington.

All which is respectfully submitted.

(Signed) JOHN J. MCGEE,
Clerk of the Privy Council.

Inclosure 3 in No. 29.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, CANADA.

SCHEDULE to accompany the Report to Council of the Honourable the Minister of the Interior, dated 25th August, 1892.

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P.C. 1313 H.	13th July	.. Lord Knutsford to Lord Stanley of Preston.
P.C. 1284 H.	23rd June	.. Hon. Michael Herbert to Lord Stanley of Preston.
	14th July	.. Hon. J. J. C. Abbott to Lord Stanley of Preston.
P.C. 1351 H.	28th July	.. Lord Knutsford to Lord Stanley of Preston. (Covering telegrams to and from Mr. Herbert.)
P.C. 1352 H.	28th July	.. Lord Knutsford to Lord Stanley of Preston. (Covering telegram from Mr. Herbert.)
P.C. 1338 H.	23rd July	.. Mr. Herbert to Lord Stanley of Preston.
P.C. 1364 H.	26th July	.. Colonial Office to Lord Stanley of Preston. (Covering telegrams from Marquis of Salisbury to Mr. Herbert and Mr. Herbert to Lord Salisbury.)
P.C. 1389 H.	4th August	.. Lord Knutsford to Lord Stanley of Preston. (Covering letter from Foreign Office.)
P.C. 1396 H.	13th August	.. Lord Knutsford to Lord Stanley of Preston.

No. 30.

Colonial Office to Foreign Office.—(Received October 13.)

Sir,

Downing Street, October 13, 1892.

I AM directed by the Marquis of Ripon to transmit to you, for the information of the Earl of Rosebery, with reference to your letter of the 5th instant, a copy of a despatch which his Lordship has addressed to the Governor-General of Canada on the subject of the wish of the Government of the United States that the work of the Alaska Boundary Commission should commence as soon as possible, as explained in Mr. Foster's despatch to Mr. Herbert of the 8th ultimo.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JOHN BRAMSTON.

Inclosure in No. 30.

The Marquis of Ripon to Lord Stanley of Preston.

My Lord,

Downing Street, October 13, 1892.

HER Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Washington has forwarded to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs a copy of a despatch from Mr. Foster, dated the 8th ultimo, in which he states that Mr. Thomas C. Mendenhall, Superintendent of the United States' Coast and Geodetic Survey, has been appointed United States' Commissioner under Articles I and II of the Alaska Boundary Convention, and expresses the hope that the Commission may commence its work as soon as possible.

It is understood that a copy of this despatch has been sent to you by Mr. Herbert, and I should be glad to be informed of the answer which your Government wish to be returned to the Government of the United States on the subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RIPON.

No. 31.

Colonial Office to Foreign Office.—(Received October 21.)

Sir,

Downing Street, October 20, 1892.

WITH reference to your letter of the 2nd April last, marked Confidential, on the subject of the boundary between the United States and Canadian waters in Passamaquoddy Bay, I am directed by the Marquis of Ripon to transmit to you, to be laid before the Earl of Rosebery, a copy of a despatch from the Governor-General of Canada with a Minute of his Privy Council respecting certain weirs erected by United States' fishermen on what are known as the "middle grounds" in Lubeck Narrows.

Lord Ripon is not sure that the Convention recently concluded with the United States relative to the Alaska and Passamaquoddy Bay boundaries is intended to extend to the Lubeck Narrows, but should the proposed Notice not have been already issued, he is disposed to deprecate any active measures for the enforcement of the Canadian view as to the position of the line, and to suggest that it might be preferable that the people concerned should simply receive notice that their weirs are erected in Canadian waters, and that they may be called upon to remove them.

His Lordship would be glad to receive Lord Rosebery's views on the matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) JOHN BRAMSTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 31.

Lord Stanley of Preston to the Marquis of Ripon.

(Confidential.)

My Lord,

The Citadel, Quebec, September 24, 1892.

WITH reference to Colonial Office despatch of the 21st April last, marked Confidential, on the subject of the boundary between the United States and Canada in Passamaquoddy Bay, I have the honour to transmit, for your Lordship's information, copy of an approved Minute of the Privy Council setting forth the action which Ministers propose to take in respect of certain weirs erected by United States' fishermen on what are known as the "middle grounds" in Lubeck Narrows, which appear to be clearly within the limits of Canadian territory.

I have, &c.
(Signed) STANLEY OF PRESTON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 31.

Report of a Committee of the Honourable the Privy Council, approved by his Excellency the Governor-General in Council on the 12th September, 1892.

THE Committee of the Privy Council have had under consideration a Report, dated the 29th August, 1892, from the Minister of Marine and Fisheries, setting forth that since

making his report on the erection of weirs by United States' fishermen on what is known as the "middle grounds" in Lubeck Narrows, his attention has been directed to an extract from a Confidential Memorandum, written by Sir Travers Twiss in 1854, respecting the boundary between the United States and Canada in Passamaquoddy Bay.

The Minister observes that in this latter Memorandum the memorialist points out that "the Boundary Commissioners, whilst awarding the territory of Campobello Island, Deer Island, and Marvel Island to Great Britain, did not distinctly define any water boundary between these islands and the United States' mainland. He holds, therefore, that the rules of international law apply, and, therefore, that the water limits of Her Britannic Majesty's territory are co-extensive with the waters of the north-east side of the line drawn in continuation of the mid-channel between Campobello and the American mainland to the mid-channel of the St. Croix River between St. Andrew and the shore of the United States."

The Minister is of opinion that such a line is necessarily a curve, and is represented with evident fairness on the British Admiralty Chart No. 2020. Accepting this line as the true boundary, the inner "middle ground" in Lubeck Narrows is clearly within the limits of Canadian territory, and, therefore, the weirs built there by United States' citizens without licence from the Government of Canada, are illegally set and liable to confiscation, and their owners to prosecution for infraction of the Fisheries Act.

The Minister considers however, that inasmuch as these weirs have been set and worked for many years past without interference on the part of Canadian officials, the owners are entitled to a certain amount of consideration. He therefore recommends that a carefully worded Notice be drafted by the Department of Justice, informing the owners of these weirs that they are set in Canadian waters, and that, although in consideration of their undisturbed use of the sites, they will be permitted to continue to fish for the remainder of the current season, they are to take notice that licences will not be issued for these sites for the year 1893, and that they will be called upon to completely remove their weirs at the close of the fishing season, or in any event not later than the 30th November, 1892.

The Committee, concurring in the foregoing recommendation, submit the same for your Excellency's approval.

(Signed) JOSEPH POPE,
Assistant Clerk of the Privy Council.

No. 32.

Mr. Herbert to the Earl of Rosebery.—(Received October 24.)

(No. 295.)

My Lord,

Washington, October 14, 1892.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 247 of the 10th ultimo, I have the honour to inclose copy of a note, with its inclosure, which, at the request of the Governor-General of Canada, I have addressed to the United States' Government, in which I have informed them that the provision for the expenses of the Canadian Alaska Boundary Commissioner has been made, and there need, therefore, be no delay in the commencement of the work of the Commission.

I have, &c.
(Signed) MICHAEL H. HERBERT.

Inclosure 1 in No. 32.

Mr. Herbert to Mr. Foster.

Sir,

Washington, October 14, 1892.

WITH reference to your note of the 8th ultimo, I have the honour, in accordance with a request which I have received from the Governor-General of Canada, to inclose copy of an approved Minute of the Canadian Privy Council, from which you will observe that provision for the expenses of the Canadian Alaska Boundary Commissioner has been made, and that there consequently need be no further delay in the commencement of the work of the Commission.

I have the honour at the same time to draw your attention to the suggestion of the Canadian Minister of the Interior, contained in the Minute, that the two Commissioners

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be authorized to communicate directly with each other to fix the date of their first meeting.

I have, &c.
(Signed) MICHAEL H. HERBERT.

Inclosure 2 in No. 32.

Report of a Committee of the Privy Council, October 1, 1892.

THE Committee of the Privy Council have had under consideration a despatch, hereto attached, dated the 13th September, 1892, from the Honourable Michael H. Herbert, and the letter therewith of the Honourable Secretary of State of the United States, concerning the appointment of Mr. Mendenhall as Commissioner under Articles I and II of the Alaska Boundary Convention.

The Minister of the Interior, to whom the question was referred, recommends that the necessary steps be taken to inform the Government of the United States that provision for the expenses of the Canadian Commissioner has been made by warrant of your Excellency, and that there need, therefore, be no delay in the commencement of the work of the Commission.

The Minister desires to point out that it might be as well, in order to save time in the arrangement of preliminaries, that the two Commissioners be authorized to communicate directly with each other, and to fix the date of their first meeting.

The Committee submit the above recommendation for your Excellency's approval.

The Committee further advise that your Excellency be moved to inform Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Washington in the sense of this Minute.

All which is respectfully submitted to your Excellency's approval.

(Signed) JOHN J. MCGEE,
Clerk of the Privy Council.

No. 33.

Foreign Office to Colonial Office.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 26, 1892.

I AM directed by the Earl of Rosebery to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 20th instant, inclosing copy of a despatch from the Governor-General of Canada, forwarding a Minute of the Privy Council with regard to a notice which it is proposed to issue to certain United States' fishermen who have erected weirs on what are known as the "middle grounds" in Lubeck Narrows.

Lord Rosebery agrees with the Marquis of Ripon that, if the proposed Notice has not yet been issued by the Canadian Government, it will be preferable that the people concerned should simply receive warning that their weirs are erected in Canadian waters, and that they may be called upon to remove them.

I am, &c.
(Signed) P. CURRIE.

P.S.—The Chart which accompanied your letter is returned as requested.

P. C.

No. 34.

Mr. Herbert to the Earl of Rosebery.—(Received November 7.)

(No. 306.)

My Lord,

Washington, October 26, 1892.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 295 of the 14th instant in regard to the meeting of the Alaska Boundary Commissioners, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that I have received a note from Mr. Foster, in which he states that the American Commissioner has been instructed to make arrangements, as soon as possible, for the first meeting of the Commission.

I have, &c.
(Signed) MICHAEL H. HERBERT.

No. 35.

Mr. Herbert to the Earl of Rosebery.—(Received November 7.)

(No. 307.)

My Lord,

Washington, October 26, 1892.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 255 of the 16th ultimo respecting the appointment of Mr. F. King as Canadian Commissioner on the Alaska Boundary Commission, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that I have received a note from Mr. Foster, in which he inquires whether Mr. King is also to be the colleague of the Commissioner of the United States, Professor Thomas C. Mendenhall, for the purpose of executing the provision of Article II of the Convention between the United States and Great Britain, concluded the 22nd July, 1892, in relation to determining and accurately marking the boundary-line between the two countries in the neighbourhood of Eastport, Maine. Mr. Foster states that Professor Mendenhall's appointment makes him the Commissioner of this Government for the work embraced in Articles I and II of that Treaty, and it is to satisfy his inquiry upon this point that the information is desired.

I have forwarded a copy of Mr. Foster's note to the Governor-General of Canada.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

MICHAEL H. HERBERT.

No. 36.

Foreign Office to Colonial Office.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 9, 1892.

WITH reference to my letter of the 5th ultimo respecting the Alaska Boundary Commission, I am directed by the Earl of Rosebery to transmit copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Washington,* the purport of which is as follows :—

Mr. Herbert states that he has received a note from Mr. Foster inquiring whether Mr. King is to be Professor Mendenhall's colleague for the purpose of executing the provision of Article II of the Convention between the United States and Great Britain of the 22nd July, 1892, in relation to determining and accurately marking the boundary-line between the two countries in the neighbourhood of Eastport, Maine.

Lord Rosebery would be glad to be informed what reply the Marquis of Ripon would wish to be returned to Mr. Foster's inquiry.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

T. V. LISTER.

No. 37.

Sir J. Pauncefote to the Earl of Rosebery.—(Received December 4.)

(No. 326.)

My Lord,

Washington, November 17, 1892.

WITH reference to Mr. Herbert's despatch No. 307 of the 26th ultimo, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that I have received a communication from the Governor-General of Canada, in which it is stated that it is the intention of the Canadian Government to appoint Mr. King as Commissioner under both Articles of the Convention concluded between Great Britain and the United States on the 22nd July, 1892.

I have accordingly so informed the United States' Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

JULIAN PAUNCEFOTE.